

2018 Current Fiscal Year Report: Biomass Research and Development Technical Advisory Committee

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Energy

2. Fiscal Year

2018

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Biomass Research and Development Technical Advisory
Committee

3b. GSA Committee No.

10674

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

05/12/2017

6. Expected Renewal Date

05/12/2019

7. Expected Term Date

8a. Was Terminated During FiscalYear?

No

8b. Specific Termination Authority

8c. Actual Term Date

9. Agency Recommendation for Next FiscalYear

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

No

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority

PL 106-224, Agriculture Risk Protection Act, Title III,
Biomass Research and Development Act of 2000

13. Effective Date

06/20/2000

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee Scientific Technical Program Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for this
FiscalYear

17a. Open 2 17b. Closed 0 17c. Partially Closed 0 Other Activities 0 17d. Total 2 Meetings and Dates

Purpose

CY 2017 Q4 Meeting

CY Q3 Meeting

Start

11/15/2017

08/22/2018

End

- 11/16/2017

- 08/23/2018

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 2

18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members

\$0.00

Next FY

\$0.00

18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members

\$0.00

\$0.00

18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff

\$42,300.00

\$40,000.00

18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants

\$0.00

\$0.00

18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members

\$53,248.00

\$80,000.00

18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$38,456.00	\$54,000.00
18d. Total	\$134,004.00	\$175,000.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.30	0.30

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Committee is chartered to provide advice on biomass research priorities to the Secretaries of Energy and Agriculture. They also review and evaluate procedures for evaluation of proposals, and perform strategic planning. Generally, these activities are accomplished via quarterly Committee meetings. In June 2002, the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of Agriculture requested that the Committee develop a Vision and Roadmap document for the biomass industry. The Committee completed the Vision in October 2002 and completed the Roadmap in November 2002. In August 2005, the Energy Policy Act required that the documents be updated. The Committee worked throughout FY 2006 and FY 2007 to achieve this. The Vision was completed in November 2006 and the Roadmap in September 2007. The Committee restructured in May 2008 and established new subcommittees in line with the Biomass R&D Board interagency working groups. These subcommittees are: Feedstocks Production and Logistics; Conversion; and Products, Markets, and Systems Groups. The previous subcommittees (Policy, Analysis, Communications and Planning) were discontinued.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

Membership for the Biomass R&D Technical Advisory Committee is balanced in accordance with Public Law 106-224 which established the Committee. The Biomass R&D Act was amended by Section 9001 of the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 and states that in general the Advisory Committee shall consist of-- (i) an individual affiliated with the biofuels industry; (ii) an individual affiliated with the biobased industrial and commercial products industry; (iii) an individual affiliated with an institution of higher education who has expertise in biofuels and biobased products; (iv) 2 prominent engineers or scientists from government or academia who have expertise in biofuels and biobased products; (v) an individual affiliated with a commodity trade association; (vi) 2 individuals affiliated with environmental or conservation organizations; (vii) an individual associated with State government who has expertise in biofuels and biobased products; (viii) an individual with expertise in energy and environmental analysis; (ix) an individual with expertise in the economics of biofuels and biobased products; (x) an individual with expertise in agricultural economics; (xi) an individual with expertise in plant biology and biomass feedstock development; (xii) an individual with expertise in agronomy, crop

science, or soil science; and (xiii) at the option of the points of contact, other members. This membership balance was most recently authorized in the Agricultural Act of 2014.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The Committee meets each quarter, approximately four times a year to develop and discuss recommendations for submission to the Biomass R&D Board co-chaired by designees of the Secretary of Energy and Secretary of Agriculture. These recommendations are also included in an Annual Report submitted to Congress each year.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 outlines a new renewable fuel standard requiring 36 billion gallons of renewable fuel by 2022. Advanced biofuels and cellulosic biofuels are specifically called out in the renewable fuel standard. Biomass is a renewable source of energy which is based on feedstocks such as commodity crops, agriculture and forest residue, and livestock waste which are all available within our shores. This renewable energy source provides the opportunity for the Nation to lessen its dependence on imported oil, improve the rural economy, and reduce the emissions caused from the combustion of fossil fuels and fossil feedstocks for products and fuels. The area of biomass technologies is very broad. The advisory committee provides the needed focus and input from industry, academia, non-profits, and state and tribal governments that will allow the federal programs to focus on the research that is critical to the sustainability and marketability of biofuels and biobased products and power. The Committee operates under the oversight of the Biomass R&D Board, a federal-level panel which helps coordinate biomass research and development efforts government-wide. The Biomass R&D Board is co-chaired by the Departments of Agriculture and Energy.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

Meeting are always open.

21. Remarks

The Energy Policy Act of 2005, section 941, revised the Biomass R&D Act of 2000 to remove the termination date for this Committee. The Act was further amended by the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008, specifically Section 9008. It was re-authorized in the Agricultural Act of 2014. The draft Annual Reports are in the review process.

Designated Federal Officer

Mark Elless Designated Federal Officer (DFO)

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Abbas, Charles	01/18/2017	12/30/2019	Director Yeast & Renewables Research, Archer Daniels Midland (ADM)	Representative Member
Bean, Brent	01/01/2018	12/31/2020	United Sorghum Checkoff Program	Representative Member
Beardsley, Michael	01/01/2018	12/31/2020	State of Maine	Representative Member
Chornet, Esteban	04/22/2016	12/30/2018	CTO and Cofounder, Enerkem	Representative Member
Cornish, Katrina	01/18/2017	12/30/2019	Director of Research, Program of Excellence Natural Rubber Alternatives, Ohio State University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Csonka, Steve	04/22/2016	12/30/2018	Executive Director, CAAFI	Representative Member
Estes, Vonnice	04/22/2016	12/30/2018	Group Leader, Agricultural and Industrial Biotechnology, Caribou Biosciences	Representative Member
Faulker, Douglas	01/01/2018	12/31/2020	Leatherstocking LLC	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Frey, William	01/18/2017	12/30/2019	Vice President, Business Development & Disruptive Innovation, Georgia-Pacific	Representative Member
Garcia Perez, Manuel	04/16/2015	12/31/2020	Associate Professor, Washington State University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Glaser, Aviva	01/01/2018	12/31/2020	National Wildlife Federation	Representative Member
Heaton, Emily	04/22/2016	12/30/2018	Assistant Professor, Dept. of Agronomy, Iowa State University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Hood, Beth	01/18/2017	12/30/2019	Distinguished Professor, Arkansas Biosciences Institute, Arkansas State University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Huhnke, Raymond	01/18/2017	12/30/2019	Director, Biobased Products and Energy Center, Professor, Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering, Oklahoma State University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Jennings, Randy	01/18/2017	12/30/2019	Director of Program Operations, Tennessee Department of Agriculture	Representative Member
Keller, Alan	01/01/2018	12/31/2020	POET LLC	Representative Member
Lau, Kit	04/22/2016	12/30/2018	Senior Scientist, BioAmber Inc.	Representative Member
Madden, Pete	01/01/2018	12/31/2020	Drax Biomass Inc.	Representative Member
McAdams, Michael	01/01/2018	12/31/2020	Advanced Biofuels Association	Representative Member

McKiernan, Christine	04/22/2016	12/30/2018	Vice President of Engineering, BIOFerm Energy Systems	Representative Member Special Government Employee (SGE) Member Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Miller, Raymond	04/22/2016	12/30/2018	Director and Professor, Forest Biomass Innovation Center, Michigan State University	Representative Member Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Miller, Shellie	04/16/2015	12/31/2020	Professor, University of Michigan	Representative Member Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Rials, Tim	01/01/2018	12/31/2020	University of Tennessee	Representative Member
Rudolf, Matthew	01/18/2017	12/30/2019	Manager, Biofuels and Bio-Products, Environmental Certification Services	Representative Member
Rupp, Susan	01/01/2018	12/31/2020	Envirosapes Ecological Consulting LLC	Representative Member Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Saha, Basudeb	01/01/2018	12/31/2020	University of Delaware	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Scanlan, Patricia	04/16/2015	12/31/2020	Director of Residuals Treatment Technologies, Black & Veatch	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Stevens, Don	04/22/2016	12/30/2018	President, Cascade Science and Technology Research	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Sullivan, Lawrence	01/01/2018	12/31/2020	Trident Technical College and The Citadel	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Thomas, Valerie	01/18/2017	12/30/2019	Professor, Georgia Institute of Technology	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Tiller, Kelly	04/16/2015	12/31/2020	PRESIDENT, CEO, CHAIRMAN & FOUNDER, GENERA ENERGY INC.	Representative Member Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Wolcott, Michael	01/18/2017	12/30/2019	Regents Professor, Louisiana-Pacific Distinguished Professor of Wood Materials and Engineering, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Washington State University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 32

Narrative Description

The Committee holds meetings quarterly to review current biomass research and development resulting from its joint solicitation, as well as the intentions of future joint solicitations. These projects are measured against the Committee's updated Vision and Roadmap documents, which set goals and outline desired National progress in the areas of biofuels, biopower, and bioproducts. Recommendations are made on an annual basis in the Biomass R&D Annual Report to Congress, to provide feedback and suggestions for the evolution of future biomass research and development, and policy in this area.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

The Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 altered the Committee's founding legislation, the Biomass R&D Act of 2000. The Committee was reauthorized in the Agricultural Act of 2014. The Committee has three subcommittees in FY 2018 : Feedstocks Production and Logistics; Conversion; and Products, Markets, and Systems Groups.

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cost Savings Comments

NA

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

396

Number of Recommendations Comments

The Annual Report to Congress for each fiscal year (available on the Committee website) outlines all recommendations made, and Agency responses.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

82%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

Plans for implementation of recommendations are provided by the Departments of Agriculture and Energy in the Annual Report for each fiscal year.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

NA

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

The Departments of Agriculture and Energy provide feedback to all recommendations in the Annual Report to Congress for each fiscal year.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

Committee advice regarding biomass legislation, current research awards under the joint

solicitation, and evaluation of priorities, are included in the Annual Report to Congress for each fiscal year.

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

NA

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

<http://biomassboard.gov/committee/committee.html>